

From: Andrew Zanevsky
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/27/02 9:50am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Dear Sir or Madam:

In this e-mail I submit my opinion on the antitrust settlement between Microsoft, the Department of Justice and nine states.

I think that the terms of the settlement are fair to all parties and should be approved. I believe that further litigation against Microsoft would be detrimental to the health of the industry and the U.S. economy as a whole. It could only benefit some of the Microsoft competitors and not the consumers.

I am a professional computer database administrator, consultant, speaker, author, and business owner. My opinion is based on 15 years of industry experience, direct involvement in associations of computer professionals, my expertise in the field, and contacts with colleagues.

I clearly see that if Microsoft is prevented from adding new features to their products, the industry will stagnate. It will lead to increased costs of software for consumers, because we will be forced to buy and integrate numerous products in order to conduct our business. Introduction of new features in the operating system is a natural process of software systems evolution. I believe that any continuation of the legal process against Microsoft will only suffocate progress in computer systems, not invigorate it.

Technology in our industry changes so fast, that Microsoft's lead in operating systems does not guarantee it's dominant position in related markets. We have seen numerous software companies successfully grow from nimble startups to multi-billion dollars corporations. This happens when they have a truly innovative and useful products. But Microsoft often comes up with a better solution and then consumers make their choice.

As an industry expert and as a consumer, I urge you to approve the proposed settlement terms and allow Microsoft to continue its research, development, and innovation.

Sincerely,
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